

PCT

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IMPORTANT NOTICE

International application No.
PCT/US2004/021435

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Priority date (*day/month/year*)
03 July 2003 (03.07.2003)

Applicant

SPONGETECH, INC. et al

The International Bureau transmits herewith the following documents:

☐ copy of the international application as published by the International Bureau on under
No. WO

☒ copy of international application as republished by the International Bureau on 21 April 2005 (21.04.2005) under
No. WO 2005/007789

For an explanation as to the reason for this republication of the international application, reference is made to INID codes (15), (48) or (88) (*as the case may be*) on the front page of the attached document.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US04/21435

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) : A47K 7/03; A47L 13/17

US CL : 15/104.93; 427/402, 417, 430.1; 118/44, 100, 302, 304, 324, 407, 408, 410, 423

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

U.S. : 15/104.93; 427/402, 417, 430.1; 118/44, 100, 302, 304, 324, 407, 408, 410, 423

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X — Y	US 2,320,858 A (FIELD) 01 June 1943, see entire document.	40,43-49,54,57-60,63,64,66,67 ----- 50,87,88,90,91 71-73,75,76
Y	US 3,094,735 A (HANLON) 25 June 1963, see entire document.	71-73,75,76
X — Y	US 5,955,417 A (TAYLOR) 21 September 1999, see entire document.	1,2,22,29,40,42-45,51-55,77,78,80-83,85,86 ----- 3-19,23-28,30-39,41,56,62,71-73,75,76
Y	US 5,960,506 A (REUVEN) 05 October 1999, see entire document.	33,34,37

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

☐ See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

"E" earlier application or patent published on or after the international filing date

"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T"

later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X"

document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y"

document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art

"&"

document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

26 January 2005 (26.01.2005)

Date of mailing of the international search report

10 FEB 2005

Name and mailing address of the ISA/US

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BOX II. OBSERVATIONS WHERE UNITY OF INVENTION IS LACKING

- I. Claims 1-39 and 54, drawn to an apparatus.
- II. Claims 40-53 and 55-62, drawn to a method.
- III. Claims 63-91, drawn to a manufacturing apparatus.

The inventions listed as Groups I, II and III do not relate to a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because, under PCT Rule 13.2, they lack the same or corresponding special technical features for the following reasons: Group I is drawn to a cleansing device, Group II is drawn to a method of manufacturing a cleansing device, and Group III is drawn to an apparatus for manufacturing a cleansing device. Unity of invention does not exist because there is no technical relationship among the claimed inventions which involve one or more same or corresponding special technical features. Furthermore, claim 1 in the invention of Group I is not deemed to define any special technical feature as merely a web of fibers and a solid cleansing agent distributed substantially throughout the substrate to be used in conjunction with a solvent is being claimed and is not deemed to define any "special technical feature" defining a contribution over the prior art. Claim 1, for example, merely exemplifies a Brillo pad.